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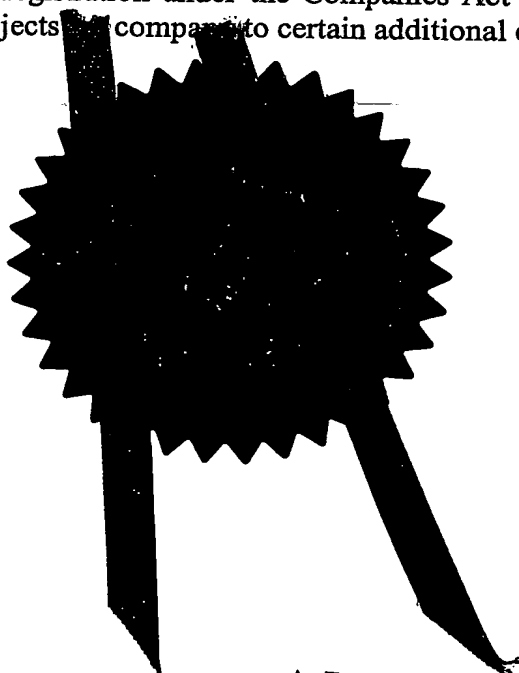
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Signed

Evans

Dated 13 May 2003

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(Rule 16)



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THE PATENT OFFICE
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Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference

2. Patent application number

(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

0208488.7

12 APR 2002

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

TIMOTHY

RICHARD PARRY DAVIES

80 Richmond Way W14 0AR
London

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

836 244 000

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

4. Title of the invention

FRAMING SYSTEM

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

NA

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number
(if you know it)

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

NA

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

No

a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or

b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or

c) any named applicant is a corporate body

See note (d))

Patents Form 1/77

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document

Continuation sheets of this form

Description

Claim(s)

Abstract

Drawing(s)

1
0
1
+ 3
3 + 1 (notes)

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77)

Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)

Any other documents (please specify)

Na
1 page of notes entitled drawings

11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

Date

TRPamy Davies 12.4.2002

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

02076027560

Warning

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Notes

1) If you need help to fill in this form or you have any questions, please contact the Patent Office on 08459 500505.

2) Write your answers in capital letters using black ink or you may type them.

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FRAMING SYSTEM

The invention is an alternative support system to a conventional frame for display, usually described as a "picture frame"; it solves the functional requirements of providing a hanging point and structural support of the normally rectangular display screen, and also provides a means of holding the displayed material in place behind the screen with minimal means.

The system has the advantage that drilling or gluing are not necessary so it can be described as "demountable" and is thus suitable for self-assembly and "flat-packing". In addition displayed material can be exchanged without need for disassembly.

By reducing the frame to a harness which engages the corners of the display screen, the appearance is comparable to the known "clip-frame". As this frame uses *diagonal tensioning* between corners to hold the display screen, a backing board (which has a structural function in clip-frames) is no longer required. A backing sheet may be used for protection or decorative reasons. The twisting of the straps to create tension also applies pressure to the back of the displayed material holding it in place against the screen. Importantly, it also gives space for a wall pin to engage with the central hanging hole so that the ensemble hangs parallel to the wall from its centre of gravity.

The system is easily adapted to make a table-top version: an "L" shaped strut is provided which is attached at the bottom end by means of a sucker to the margin of the display screen, while the upper end locates in the hanging hole (or sits in the cleft under the two straps). In the preferred version the strut is made from plastic tubing with a cocartina joint. A drinking-straw, trimmed as necessary, is suitable for this purpose and can be tightly fitted to the sucker by wetting. The sucker used has a nipple which helps to secure the connection, and glue may also be applied. A "V" cut in the top of the tube enables it to rest in the hanging hole without penetrating further but other cuts such as a vertical slot in the tube work well as the tube can then be squeezed into place.

Polypropylene is considered the most suitable material for the straps and twisting by 720 degrees is preferred though 360 is also possible. Ideally the straps should be twisted in opposite directions to achieve visual symmetry as shown in the drawings, though this is not a functional requirement. Glass is not considered to be appropriate for the display screen for safety reasons (unless safety glass), so "perspex" or similar is preferred.

Proposed safety enhancements are in the form of hemispherical beads at the corners of the display screen to help stop the straps from being accidentally pushed off. (These could be spheres located ie adhered, within a hemispherical socket.) Also the straps can be inconspicuously glued to the thin edges of the display screen as an extra precaution. Further attachments could be added to the corners to act as buffers in case of accident. A version for mounting on glazed or shiny surfaces is achieved by suckers being located in extra holes in the straps or a larger sucker in the central hanging hole. A lighter weight version is proposed for use on fridge doors due to the dynamic loads in this instance. The standard version may have the extra holes to meet this possibility. The system is designed to accommodate decorative margin strips, held in place as the displayed material itself is, by twists in the straps, or equally to be adapted to a "sandwich" form where the displayed material is protected by a backing sheet or board (which may also be transparent and need not be as big as the display screen or have rectangular edges.) It is clear that the system achieves minimal functionality with only one diagonal tensioned strap but this is not the preferred version. (It was also assumed that generating tension by means of springs or elasticated elements would not be safe).

ABSTRACT

A FRAMING SYSTEM FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES

A framing system which comprises of a display screen held by a tensioned harness, normally using two diagonal straps with holes at both ends and a central one for hanging the the ensemble. This is also used to take the upper end of an "L" strut, the lower end of which is attached to the lower margin of the display screen by means of a sucker. The system also adapts for use on shiny vertical surfaces such as glass and fridge doors by means of extra suckers as necessary in extra holes in the tension straps. The system is "open" and suitable for self-assembly.

DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 shows a strap before being deployed.

FIGURE 1B shows a strap with optional extra holes to accommodate suckers for attachment to shiny surfaces.

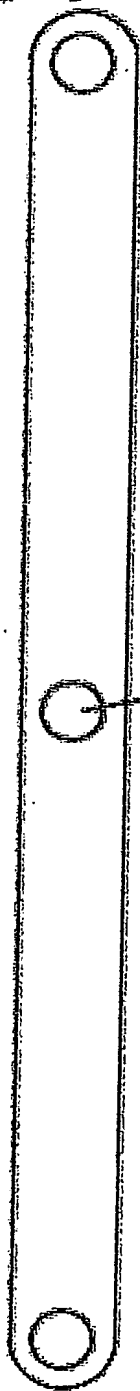
FIGURE 2 shows the standard configuration for wall mounting.

FIGURE 3 shows the configuration for table top use.

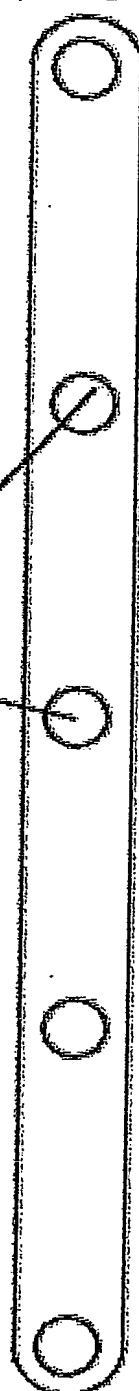
FIG 1

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FIG 1B



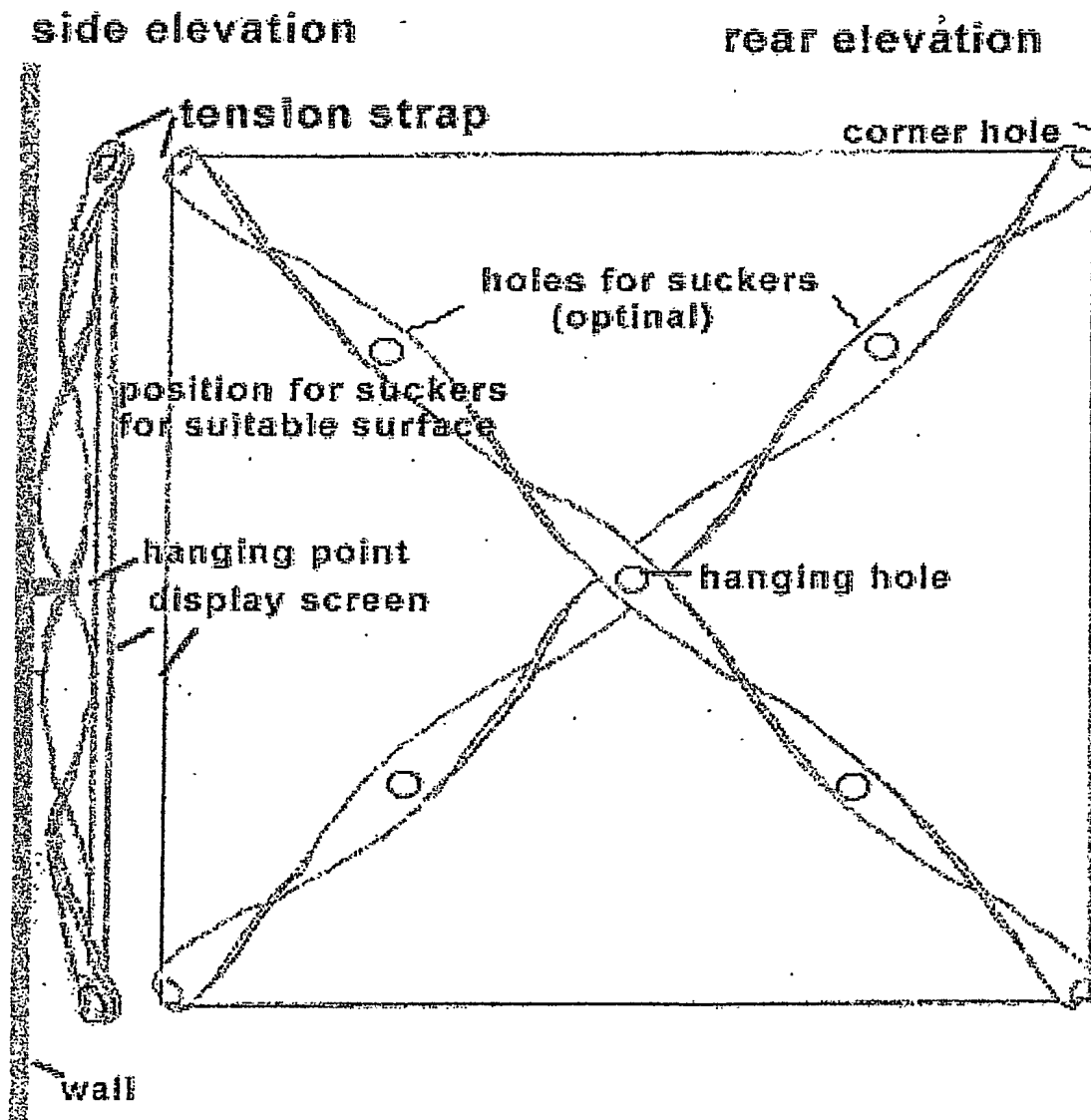
normal strap



**strap with extra holes
for suckers**

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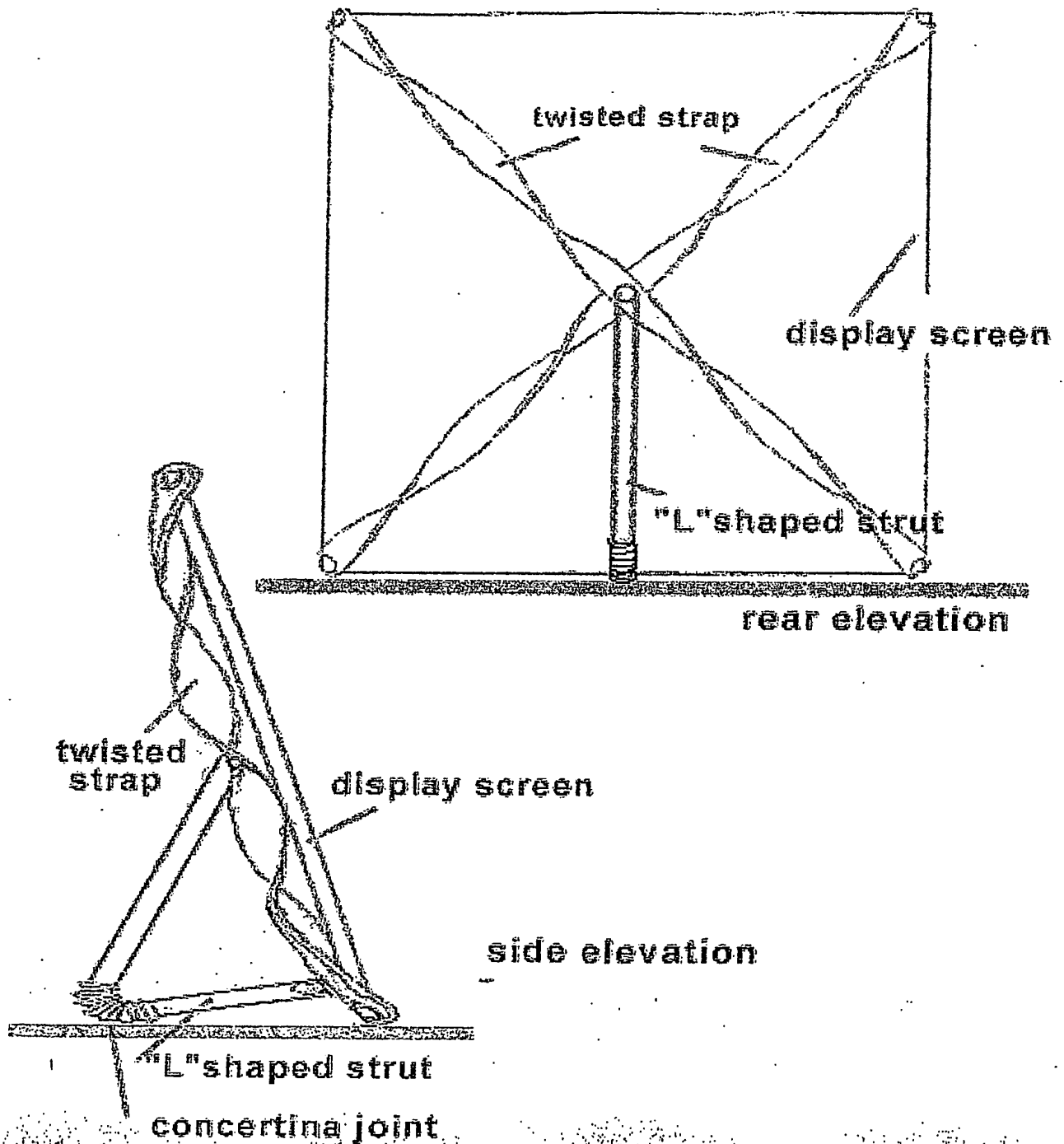
FIG 2



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FIG 3



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